

In the claims:

Please cancel claims 1-16. Please amend claims 17-18.
Please add new claims 21-33. A copy of the claims is shown
on the following sheet(s) as specified in 37 CFR section
1.121, Revised Notice.

Amendments to the Claims

1-16. (canceled).

17. (currently amended) A method of securing a caster to a packaging component during shipping, the caster including a wheel having a radius and a centrally mounted axle, the method comprising ~~the following steps:~~

connecting a securing bracket to the axle of the wheel, the securing bracket having a length greater than the radius of the wheel;

moving the bracket to a shipping position in which the wheel is suspended above the packaging component; and

fastening the bracket to the packaging component.

18. (currently amended) A method in accordance with claim 17, wherein the step of moving the bracket to a shipping position comprises pivoting the bracket ~~pivoting the bracket~~ to a shipping position.

19. (original) A method in accordance with claim 17, wherein the step of fastening the bracket to the packaging component comprises fastening the bracket to the packaging component with a threaded fastener.

20. (original) A method in accordance with claim 19, wherein the step of fastening the bracket to the packaging component with a threaded fastener comprises bolting the bracket to the packaging component.

21. (new) A method of securing a wheel against movement on a packaging component, comprising:

connecting a securing bracket to a wheel, the securing bracket including a base plate extending outwardly from a radius of the wheel;

moving the securing bracket to a shipping position in which the wheel is disengaged from the packaging component; and

securing the base plate to the packaging component.

22. (new) A method according to claim 21 wherein said step of connecting a securing bracket comprises connecting the securing bracket to an axle of the wheel.

23. (new) A method according to claim 21 wherein said step of moving the securing bracket to the shipping position comprises pivoting the securing bracket about an axle of the wheel.

24. (new) A method according to claim 21 wherein said step of securing the base plate to the packaging component comprises fastening a fastener to the packaging component and to the base plate.

25. (new) A method according to claim 24 wherein said fastener is a threaded fastener.

26. (new) A method according to claim 21 wherein in the shipping position the wheel is disengaged from the packaging component by a predetermined clearance distance.

27. (new) A method of securing a caster against movement on a packaging component, comprising:

moving a securing bracket into a position between the caster and a packaging component wherein the securing bracket prevents rolling movement of the caster relative to the packaging component; and

securing the securing bracket to the packaging component.

28. (new) A method according to claim 27 wherein the securing bracket extends outwardly from a radius of the caster and is pivotally connected to an axle of the caster.

29. (new) A method according to claim 27 wherein the step of moving the securing bracket into position between the caster and the packaging component suspends the caster above the packaging component.

30. (new) A method according to claim 27 wherein the step of securing the securing bracket to the packaging component comprises placing a bolt through an aperture in the securing bracket and through an aperture in the packaging component.

31. (new) A method of securing a wheel against movement, comprising:

connecting a securing bracket to a wheel;

moving the securing bracket to a shipping position in which the wheel is secured against movement with respect to the packaging component; and

securing the securing bracket to the packaging component.

32. (new) A method according to claim 31 wherein said step of connecting the securing bracket to the wheel comprises pivotally mounting said securing bracket about the wheel.

33. (new) A method of securing an article-mounted caster against movement on a support surface, the caster free for rolling contact with the support surface when a securing bracket is in an in-use position, comprising:

moving the securing bracket from the in-use position to a secured position in which the caster is suspended above the support surface; and

fastening the securing bracket in the secured position to the support surface.